I. *Central Poultry Development Organisations:*

(i) Four Central poultry Breeding Farms located at Bangalore Mumbai Chandigarh and Bhubaneswar.

(ii) Four Random Sample Poultry Performance Testing Centres located at Bangalore, Mumbai, Gurgaon and Bhubaneswar,

(iii) Three Regional Analytical Laboratories located at Mumbai Chandigarh and Bhubaneswar.

(iv) Central Duck Breeding Farm located at Bangalore.

(v) Central Poultry Training Institute located at Bangalore.

II. *Assistance to State Poultry/Duck Farms.*

100% Central assistance to State Poultry/Duck Farms in the North Eastern States including Sikkim from 1999-2000.

(c) The Department had established a Central Poultry Breeding Farm, a Regional Feed Analytical Laboratory and a Random Sample Poultry Performance Testing Centre at Bhubaneswar on regional basis to meet the requirement of the Eastern and North Eastern region including the State of Orissa.

(d)The plan funds allocated for the Units located at Bhubaneswar during the last three years are as under:—

Year	Rupees in lakhs
1997-98	74.04
1998-99	69.95
1999-2000	89.97

(e) The schemes are not directly beneficiary oriented hence number of people benefited cannot be quantified.

Status of employees of Modern Food Industries

† l281. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the status of the employees of Modem Food Industries has improved after disinvestment;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether the agreement relating to pay of employees and report of Mohan Committee have been implemented;

(c) if so, when; and

(d) if not the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) The Staff regulations and standing orders governing the service conditions of the employees of MFIL prior to disinvestment continue to exist after disinvestment.

(b) to (d) As per the Government directions/guidelines issued on the recommendations of Mohan Committee, the revised pay scales and any agreement in this regard could not have been adopted because MFIL incurred loss from 1998-99 onwards. The downslide in MFIL's performance also continued at faster pace and hence, generation of additional resources to meet liabilities for revised scales was not possible, which was a pre-requisite before considering adoption of the revised pay scales.

Consequent upon disinvestment of Government equity with transfer of 74% shares as well as management control to the strategic partner (M/s. Hindustan Lever Ltd.) w.e.f. 1st February 2000, the matter is now under the consideration of new management who have already allowed substantial interim relief to the employees.

Appropriate technology to increase production

1282. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any fresh step to help farmers in the country to adopt appropriate technology to increase production; and

(b) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The fresh steps taken include the following:

(i) New institutional arrangements are being pilot tested under Innovations in Technology Dissemination (ITD) Component of the World Bank funded National Agricultural Technology Project in six States namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh,